



CITY OF BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

Office of the Mayor  
**Thomas M. Menino**

**Press Release**

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**Mayor Menino Adopts LEED  
Green Building Standard For Boston**  
*Red Sox look to “green the Green Monster”*

Mayor Thomas M. Menino today announced the release of his Green Building Task Force Report. Joined at Fenway Park by Boston Redevelopment Authority Director Mark Maloney, Boston Red Sox CEO Larry Lucchino, KeySpan Chairman and CEO Robert B. Catell, and members of the Mayor’s Green Building Task Force. The City of Boston will establish the LEED Silver rating as the goal for all City-owned building projects. Also, the City will amend Article 80 of the Boston Zoning Code to require that all large projects built in Boston are LEED certifiable. The LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) Green Building Rating System is a national green building standard developed by the U.S. Green Building Council.

“Green building is good for your wallet. It’s good for the environment. And it’s good for people,” Mayor Menino said. “I asked this Task Force to make recommendations to help Boston become a national leader in green building – and that is what we’re going to do.”

Illustrating his commitment to green building and smart growth, Mayor Menino launched the Green Building Task Force in the summer of 2003. Comprised of experts in every area of building design, construction, management, and financing, as well as public health and environmental experts, the Mayor’s Green Building Task Force conducted a uniquely comprehensive exploration of green building’s full range of opportunities and challenges.

Green buildings not only decrease negative effects on the environment; they also generate substantial cost savings for building owners and tenants, reduce our dependency on imported energy, and enhance worker health and productivity. Also, by promoting new green buildings and development, as well as “greening” Boston’s existing buildings, the City seeks to stimulate

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new business growth and job creation for Boston.

BRA Director Maloney highlighted the economic benefits resulting from the Mayor's green building policies, saying: "Increased demand for green building components and expertise can lead to significant job creation in Boston." He added that the BRA is looking at ways "to foster and support businesses that design and manufacture energy-efficient products."

Inspired by the Mayor's green building leadership, the Boston Red Sox are committing to exploring green opportunities, such as recycled materials, in their upcoming construction projects. Keyspan Energy announced that the company will dedicate \$250,000 – through an Emerald Network team – to green building efforts. The money will include funding for employee training in green building practices and technologies, as well as grants for projects that incorporate significant energy-saving features.

"Just as the Emerald Necklace adorns the city with green spaces, KeySpan's Emerald Network will help enable public buildings and development to become more green," said KeySpan Chairman and CEO Robert B. Catell. "This initiative will support the Mayor's standard by helping developers and building owners make their facilities more green. It makes good health sense and it makes good economic sense."

Later this year Mayor Menino will announce the next round of Green Building Feasibility Study grants, which offset the costs incurred when a development proponent expands its standard feasibility study and incorporates green building technology analyses during the early phases of project planning. By providing this funding, the City is facilitating the exploration of green solutions, which will lessen the environmental impacts of new development and reduce demand on the city's electrical energy grid.

The City already gave out two grants of \$20,000 each. Administered by the BRA on a competitive basis, the grant program was funded by the Massachusetts Technology Collaborative. Criteria include projects that represent a wide range of building types (commercial, office, institutional, retail, mixed use, residential) and a wide range of construction types (new construction, historic restoration / rehabilitation, and major building renovation).

The city already counts a number of green building success stories, including Manulife Financial's U.S. Headquarters on the South Boston Waterfront, the George Robert White Environmental Conservation Center in Mattapan, the soon-to-be-opened solar-powered Visitors Center on Spectacle Island, and the Artists for Humanity building in South Boston. Also, numerous projects that are either under construction or are in the design and planning phase are incorporating green building approaches.